M. D. S. with about 11|2 years teaching experience.

(c) In order to fill up the vacant posts under dental wing the posts were advertised and interviews have also been held on 7-11-86. Selected teachers are likely to join soon.

(d) Does not arise.

National Book Trust Books damaged in Floods

2107. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that books worth rupees fifty lakhs of National Book Trust were damaged in April, 1983 and August, 1984 due to floods;

(b) if so, whether any enquiry committee had been appointed to go through the lacuane and suggest measures so that such damages may not occur in future;

(c) what are the details of the findings and measures suggested by the enquiry committee; and

(d) what steps have been taken by Government to curb such damage to books of National Book Trust?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI):

(a) Yes, Sir. Books worth Rs. 43.98 lakhs were damaged in floods in April, 1983 and August, 1984.

(b) to (d) Since the basement was flooded because of a natural calamity due to unprecedented rains, no formal enquiry was held. After the loss of books in 1983, the Trust took the following measures to avoid damage from water entering the basement of the Trust building:

(i) lower portions of racks upto a height of about 4 feet were kept free of books so that the soil water may not damage the books.

(ii) sand bangs upto a height of 3 feet were placed in front of all the ventilators a month and half before the monsoon season.

(iii) The entire stock of books and racks in the godown was insured against loss by flood, fire etc.

All books from this particular godown have been removed. It has been decided not to stock books in this godown, and new space has been hired.

Efforts are being made to construct a new building for the Trust.

An insurance claim for Rs. 53.93 lakhs was preferred by the National Book Trust towards the value of the damaged books. A sum of Rs. 37.76 lakhs has since been received from the insurance company against the claim.

Books published under Nehru Bal Pustakalaya Scheme

2108. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the NCERT has been publishing text books for children upto 12th standard;

(b) if so, whether NCERT also publishes books for children under Nehru Bal Pustakalaya scheme; if so, the number of publications brought out by them so far, and if no books are published, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) whether National Book Trust has been publishing books for children under Nehru Bal Pustakalaya scheme; and

(d) if so, the total number of publications brought out by them so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) 1168 titles in various languages including originals, translations, revised editions and reprints have been brought out upto 31st October, 1986.

Grants to Central Gandhi Smarak Sangrahlaya

2109. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have discontinued the grant to the Central Gandhi Smarak Sangrahlaya, if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(b) whether Government are aware that the Gandhi Museum is languishing because of paucity of funds; and

(c) what steps are contemplated by Government for the development and maintenance of the precious belongings of the father of the Nation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) to (c) The Government of India is keen that the belongings of the Father of the Nation are maintained in a befitting manner and have been assisting from time to time the Central Gandhi Smarak Sangrahlaya under its schemes of financial assistance to private museums and libraries.

Termination of Pregnancy by Unqualified Persons in the Country

2110. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that termination of pregnancy is being done by unqualified persons in several parts of the country;

(b) if so, the number of cases of such termination of pregnancy that were detected during the last one year; and

(c) what action Government have taken to eliminate termination of pregnancy by unqualified persons?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b) Unauthorised illegal abortions take place secretly, hence no official data is available on this matter.

(c) Steps have been taken by way of increasing the facilities and availability of trained manpower to attend to abortion services under the purview of the Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act, 1971 as a health measure. Availability of facilities for such safe, hygienic and legal abortion services is being made known to the public.

Shortage of air seats from Delhi to Srinagar

2111. SHRI GHULAM RASOOL MATTO: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is an acute shortage of air seats from Delhi to Srinagar during the tourist season; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take in this regard?